



# NEWS

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## SC • DEPARTMENT • OF DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Date: November 4, 2009**

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### **Buscemi Named DDSN State Director**

Beverly A. H. Buscemi, Ph.D. has been named state director for the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs (DDSN).

Dr. Buscemi will direct the SC state agency that serves more than 30,500 people with mental retardation, autism, traumatic brain injuries and spinal cord injuries. The state director is the agency's chief executive. Appointed by the SC Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs, the state director has jurisdiction over five regional residential centers and all services provided through contracts with local disabilities and special needs boards and other service providers.

Ms. Kelly Hanson Floyd, chairman of the SC Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs, said, "We look forward to the leadership that Dr. Buscemi will provide to the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs and the people we serve. Her years of experience and knowledge in the disabilities field have prepared her well for this new challenge. She will provide a fresh perspective and bring new ideas to our service system in South Carolina."

"On a more personal level, Dr. Buscemi is dedicated to providing quality care and safety to the people the agency serves. She will be a strong advocate for increasing consumer and family choices and control of their services," Chairman Floyd added.

Dr. Buscemi, the former Beverly Hamby, was born and raised in Lyman, SC. She previously served as the facility administrator at DDSN's Midlands Center in Columbia. Prior to returning to her home state, she directed comprehensive residential services and

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managed multi-disciplinary treatment programs in both North Carolina and Missouri. She assumed her duties as DDSN's state director November 2.

Dr. Buscemi has a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Charleston, a Master of Arts degree from the College of William & Mary, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Saint Louis University.

On Tuesday, November 17, DDSN will host a "Meet & Greet the Director" event from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Consumers, family members, providers and the public are invited to come and meet Dr. Buscemi. The event will be held at the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Central Administrative Office, 3440 Harden Street Extension, Columbia, SC, in Room 251.

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**Photo Caption:** Dr. Beverly Buscemi is named the new state director of the SC Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

For further information or assistance, contact the SCDDSN Community Education Office at (803) 898-9743 or (803) 898-9600 (Telephone and TTY).